### 立法會 Legislative Council

LC Paper No. CB(2)781/13-14 (These minutes have been seen by the Administration)

Ref: CB2/BC/1/13

#### Bills Committee on Rural Representative Election Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2013

#### Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on Monday, 6 January 2014, at 10:00 am in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex

**Members** : Hon IP Kwok-him, GBS, JP (Chairman)

**present** Hon Albert HO Chun-yan

Hon Emily LAU Wai-hing, JP Hon TAM Yiu-chung, GBS, JP

Hon Cyd HO Sau-lan Hon YIU Si-wing

Hon MA Fung-kwok, SBS, JP

Hon CHAN Han-pan

Dr Hon Kenneth CHAN Ka-lok

Hon LEUNG Che-cheung, BBS, MH, JP

Hon Alice MAK Mei-kuen, JP

**Members** : Dr Hon LAU Wong-fat, GBM, GBS, JP

**absent** Hon WONG Yuk-man

**Public Officers**: <u>Item I</u> attending

Mr Patrick LI Pak-chuen, JP

Deputy Director of Home Affairs (1)

Miss Victoria TSE Wein-yin

Assistant Director of Home Affairs (1) (Acting)

Mr MA Kit-chi

Principal Liaison Officer (1) 2 Home Affairs Department Mr Gilbert MO Sik-keung
Deputy Law Draftsman (Bilingual Drafting and
Administration)
Department of Justice

## Attendance by invitation

Item I

Session One

Peng Chau Rural Committee

Mr Ken WONG Hon-kuen

Chairman

Wong Wai Tsak Tong

Mr WONG Tang-kin

Chairman

Individual

Mr WONG Wai-ki

Individual

Mr WONG Kwok-kong

**Individual** 

Mr WONG Kin-hoi

**Individual** 

Mr WONG Siu-cham

**Individual** 

Mr WONG Chiu-tak

Individual

Mr WONG Kam-hong

#### **Individual**

Mr WONG Po-chung

<u>Individual</u>

Mr WONG Wan-leung

**Individual** 

Mr WONG Hung-hee

**Individual** 

Mr WONG Chiu-kuen

Cheung Chau Kai-Fong Society

Mr KWOK Cheuk-kin Chairman

**Individual** 

Ms TSANG Sau-ho

<u>Individual</u>

Mr LEUNG Wai-neng

**Individual** 

Mr CHOW Yuk-tong, BBS, MH Chairman of Islands District Council

**Individual** 

Mr ON Hing-ying Member of Islands District Council

Heung Yee Kuk New Territories

Mr MAN Chen-fai Ex-Officio Executive Councillor

#### Peng Chau Hoi Fung Clan's Association

Mr ON Hing-yau Vice-Chairman

Peng Chau Chung Shan Association Ltd.

Mr WONG Hoi-yue Honorary President

**Individual** 

Mr ON Ka-yim

Session Two

Individual

Mr KWOK Heung

Individual

Mr LAW Sai-ko

Individual

Mr LO Shui-shun

**Individual** 

Mr ON Sing-yick

**Individual** 

Ms FAN Miu-king

Cheung Chau Rural Committee

Mr YUNG Chi-ming, MH Chairman

**Individual** 

Mr CHEUNG Ming-fai

#### **Individual**

Mr WONG Fai-man

<u>Individual</u>

Mr LI Wing-sang

**Individual** 

Mr Rico LO Wan-kai

**Individual** 

Ms Mealoha KWOK Wai-man

Cheung Chau Island Women's Association Ltd.

Ms LEE Kwai-chun, MH President

**Individual** 

Mr CHAN Tak-ming

Hong Kong Fishermen's Association (Cheung Chau Office)

Mr PANG Wah-kan Officer

**Individual** 

Mr Patrick CHO

**Individual** 

Ms CHAU Chuen-heung, BBS, MH, JP Vice-Chairman of Islands District Council

Session Three

**Individual** 

Mr YIP Siu-hong

中國香港致公協會

Mr HO Chi-wai Member

長洲居民事務委員會

Mr LEUNG Hon-wai Chairman

離島旅遊協進會

Mr LAW Yun-wah Member

中國香港珠三角漁農畜牧聯合會

Ms KWONG Wai-kuen Member

中國香港高等教育中醫藥協進會

Mr KWONG Sai-loi Member

**Individual** 

Ms CHUNG Chui-ling

Hong Kong Cheung Chau Bun Festival Committee

Mr HO Lai-on Vice-Chairman

**Individual** 

Mr LUK Sheung-lai

Cheung Chau Wai Chiu County Association Ltd.

Mr CHAN Man-kwong President

#### Individual

Mr LAI Tze-man

Member of Islands District Council

**Individual** 

Mr LEUNG Ko-kee

Individual

Mr LEE Man-on

Individual

Mr LEE Chi-ngan

Clerk in attendance

Ms Alice LEUNG

Chief Council Secretary (2) 2

Staff in attendance

Mr Bonny LOO

Assistant Legal Adviser 3

Miss Josephine SO

Senior Council Secretary (2) 6

Miss Emma CHEUNG Legislative Assistant (2) 2

Action

#### I. Meeting with deputations and the Administration

- The Bills Committee deliberated (index of proceedings attached at **Annex**).
- 2. <u>The Bills Committee</u> received views from the 51 deputations/individuals attending the meeting (see **Annex**), and noted 42 written submissions from other organizations/individuals which/who did not attend the meeting (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)575/13-14(14), CB(2)575/13-14(17), CB(2)575/13-14(20)-(24), CB(2)575/13-14(27)-(52), CB(2)596/13-14(05), CB(2)596/13-14(12), CB(2)596/13-14(14), CB(2)596/13-14(17)-(18) and CB(2)611/13-14(06)-(09)).

- 3. <u>The Bills Committee</u> noted the following views expressed by some deputations (including Peng Chau Rural Committee ("RC") and Cheung Chau RC) and individuals -
  - (a) while indicating support for the Bill, it was considered necessary to respect and retain the existing "block vote" system for Kaifong Representative ("KFR") elections where each elector might vote for a number of candidates not exceeding the number of KFRs to be returned at the election concerned (i.e. a maximum of 39 for Cheung Chau and 17 for Peng Chau);
  - (b) Cheung Chau and Peng Chau were integrated communities where the interests of the residents were interconnected and indivisible. Electors were familiar with the candidates' vision, conduct and contributions to the community and would vote for candidates in recognition of their contributions;
  - (c) there was no unfairness under the present electoral arrangements since electors had the rights to nominate, stand for elections and vote in a fair and free manner. While electors could vote for a maximum of 39 or 17 candidates in the election for Cheung Chau and Peng Chau KFR elections respectively, they had the right to vote for less than the maximum permitted number of candidates or even one candidate. Independent candidates stood a chance to be elected; and
  - (d) as the area and population of Cheung Chau and Peng Chau were not large, if Cheung Chau and Peng Chau were to be divided into as many as 39 and 17 individual constituencies by population and the "one person, one vote" election system was adopted, a candidate would only need a rather small number of votes to win a seat. This might affect the representativeness of the elected person and the overall development of Cheung Chau and Peng Chau.
- 4. <u>The Bills Committee</u> also noted that some other deputations/individuals held opposite views, including the following -
  - (a) as claimed by some indigenous residents of Cheung Chau, Cheung Chau should be regarded as an "Indigenous Village" and added to the list of "Indigenous Villages" under the Village Representative Election Ordinance (Cap. 576) ("VREO"). They should be given the status of

- "Indigenous Inhabitants" and their traditional rights and interests should be protected;
- (b) the "double village heads" system (i.e. the dual representation system) should apply to Cheung Chau so that Indigenous Inhabitant Representatives as well as Resident Representatives could be elected according to VREO; and
- (c) the "block vote" system had resulted in domination by some groups of candidates in the past KFR elections. Cheung Chau should be divided into a number of constituencies and the "block vote" system should be replaced by the "one person, one vote" election system.
- 5. In view of the claim by some indigenous residents in Cheung Chau that they had the evidence to prove that Cheung Chau was an "Indigenous Village" and they should be given the status of "Indigenous Inhabitants", Mr Albert HO raised the following issues of concern -
  - (a) the need to clarify whether these indigenous residents in Cheung Chau should be given the right to elect Village Representatives ("VRs") in accordance with VREO;
  - (b) whether Cheung Chau and Peng Chau were the only two market towns in existence in 1898 with KFR election, thus meeting the legislative intent of the Amendment Bill; and
  - (c) if Cheung Chau and Peng Chau were market towns, the rationale for extending the legislative framework concerning VR elections to KFR elections for Cheung Chau and Peng Chau.

Admin

6. The Administration was requested to provide in writing (i) a consolidated response to the views expressed by deputations at the meeting and (ii) a response to issues and concerns raised by members, as referred to in paragraphs 4 and 5 above.

#### II. Any other business

#### Meetings in January and February 2014

7. <u>Members</u> agreed to schedule the next three meetings of the Bills Committee as follows -

- (a) 13 January 2014 (Monday), from 2:30 pm to 4:30 pm;
- (b) 7 February 2014 (Friday), from 8:30 am to 10:30 am; and
- (c) 24 February 2014 (Monday), from 10:45 am to 12:45 pm.
- 8. There being no other business, the meeting ended at 12:46 pm.

Council Business Division 2 <u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u> 29 January 2014

# Proceedings of the meeting of the Bills Committee on Rural Representative Election Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2013 on Monday, 6 January 2014, at 10:00 am in Conference Room 2 of the Legislative Council Complex

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
000212 - 000922	Chairman	The Chairman's opening remarks	
Session O	ne		
000923 - 001138	Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Peng Chau Rural Committee ("RC")	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)594/13-14(01))	
001139 - 001357	Mr WONG Tang-kin, Wong Wai Tsak Tong	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)575/13-14(04), CB(2)652/13-14(01)&(04) and CB(2)660/13-14(01))	
001358 - 001547	Mr WONG Wai-ki	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)611/13-14(01) and CB(2)652/13-14(04))	
001548 - 001811	Mr WONG Kwok-kong	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)611/13-14(02) and CB(2)652/13-14(04))	
001812 - 001929	Mr WONG Kin-hoi	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/13-14(02) & (04) and CB(2)667/13-14(01))	
001930 - 002032	Mr WONG Siu-cham	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/13-14(04) and CB(2)667/13-14(02) & (03))	
002033 - 002215	Mr WONG Chiu-tak	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/13-14(04) and CB(2)667/13-14(04))	
002216 - 002254	Mr WONG Kam-hong	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/13-14(04) and CB(2)667/13-14(05))	
002255 - 002344	Mr WONG Po-chung	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/13-14(04) and CB(2)667/13-14(06))	
002345 - 002510	Mr WONG Wan-leung	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/13-14(04) and CB(2)667/13-14(07))	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
002511 - 002705	Mr WONG Hung-hee	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/13-14(03) and (04))	•
002706 - 002742	Mr WONG Chiu-kuen	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)652/13-14(04) and CB(2)667/13-14(08))	
002743 - 002955	Mr KWOK Cheuk-kin, Cheung Chau Kai-Fong Society	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)575/13-14(05), CB(2)611/13-14(03) and (04))	
002956 - 003130	Ms TSANG Sau-ho	Presentation of views	
003131 - 003336	Mr LEUNG Wai-neng	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)608/13-14(01))	
003337 - 003544	Mr CHOW Yuk-tong	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(06))	
003545 - 003754	Mr ON Hing-ying	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(07))	
003755 - 004015	Mr MAN Chen-fai, Heung Yee Kuk New Territories ("HYK")	Presentation of views (LC Paper Nos. CB(2)575/13-14(08) and CB(2)611/13-14(05))	
004016 - 004116	Mr ON Hing-yau, Peng Chau Hoi Fung Clan's Association	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(09))	
004117 - 004222	Mr WONG Hoi-yue, Peng Chau Chung Shan Association Ltd.	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(10))	
004223 - 004257	Mr ON Ka-yim	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(11))	
004258 - 005434	Chairman Mr Albert HO Mr WONG Hon-kuen, Peng Chau RC Mr KWOK Cheuk-kin, Cheung Chau Kai-Fong Society Mr WONG Tang-kin, Wong Wai Tsak Tong Mr WONG Kwok-kong Mr LEUNG Che-cheung	In response to Mr Albert HO's enquiry, Mr WONG Hon-kuen of Peng Chau RC reiterated his view against the idea of dividing Peng Chau into several constituencies. Pointing out that the number of electors who voted in the last Peng Chau Kaifong Representative ("KFR") election was only about 1 700, he said that if Peng Chau was divided into several constituencies, a candidate would only need a rather small number of votes to win a seat. This might affect the representativeness of the elected person.	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
		Mr Albert HO asked the deputations/ individuals which/who requested for the inclusion of Cheung Chau onto the list of "Indigenous Villages" under the Village Representative Election Ordinance (Cap. 576) ("VREO") and the application of "double village heads" system to Cheung Chau to give views on the following issues -	•
		(a) the "block vote" system for the elections of KFRs for Cheung Chau; and	
		(b) the existing voting arrangement for the election of 39 KFRs on the basis of one single constituency.	
		Mr KWOK Cheuk-kin of Cheung Chau Kai-Fong Society considered that Cheung Chau should be divided into several constituencies and the "one person, one vote" election system should be adopted. He also raised his concern about the unfairness arising from the pooling of resources and the conduct of joint electioneering activities by candidates who had group affiliations.	
		Reiterating the long history of Wong Wai Tsak Tong in Cheung Chau, Mr WONG Tang-kin of Wong Wai Tsak Tong and Mr WONG Kwokkong maintained their view that Cheung Chau should be regarded as an "Indigenous Village" and the "double village heads" system should apply to Cheung Chau. Mr WONG Tang-kin also said that the suggestion of dividing Cheung Chau into several constituencies could improve the representativeness of Cheung Chau RC.	
		On Mr LEUNG Che-cheung's enquiry, Mr WONG Tang-kin of Wong Wai Tsak Tong said that Cheung Chau RC did not have Indigenous Inhabitant Representatives in Cheung Chau. The indigenous villagers could participate in KFR elections.	
005435 - 010025	Chairman Admin	The Administration's response as follows-  (a) Cheung Chau and Peng Chau were not included in the Schedules to VREO enacted in 2003 because they had never had any Village Representative ("VR")	

Time	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
marker		election system, and were not indigenous villages already in existence in 1898;  (b) the reference made by the Administration in concluding that Cheung Chau was a market town, which included (i) the List of Established Villages in the New Territories compiled in 1991 by HYK and the former Planning, Environment and Lands Branch, (ii) the Block Lease that came into effect in 1905; and (iii) the New Territories Small House Policy List of Recognised Villages compiled by the Lands Department; and  (c) the KFR seats of Cheung Chau RC and Peng Chau RC were established around the 1950/60s. The whole island of Cheung Chau and that of Peng Chau had always been a single constituency, and the "block vote" system had been adopted since the establishment of these two RCs. The voting system had been operating smoothly for years and was widely known and accepted. The legislative principle of the Administration was to respect and retain the existing number of seats and voting method of the KFR election while bringing it under statutory regulation.	Required
Session T	wo		
010026 - 010319	Chairman	The Chairman's introductory remarks	
010320 - 010339	Mr KWOK Heung	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(12))	
010340 - 010349	Mr LAW Sai-ko	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(13))	
010350 - 010405	Mr LO Shui-shun	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(15))	
010406 - 010428	Mr ON Sing-yick	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(16))	
010429 - 010659	Ms FAN Miu-king	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(01))	
010700 - 010954	Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Cheung Chau RC	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(18))	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
010955 - 011210	Mr CHEUNG Ming-fai	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(02))	1
011211 - 011308	Mr WONG Fai-man	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(03))	
011309 - 011537	Mr LI Wing-sang	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(04))	
011538 - 011724	Mr Rico LO Wan-kai	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(06))	
011725 - 011842	Ms Mealoha KWOK Wai- man	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(07))	
011843 - 012020	Ms LEE Kwai-chun, Cheung Chau Island Women's Association Ltd.	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(08))	
012021 - 012227	Mr CHAN Tak-ming	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(19))	
012228 - 012425	Mr PANG Wah-kan, Hong Kong Fishermen's Association (Cheung Chau Office)	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(09))	
012426 - 012634	Mr Patrick CHO	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(10))	
012635 - 012923	Ms CHAU Chuen-heung	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)594/13-14(02))	
012924 - 013731	Chairman Mr Albert HO Mr CHAN Tak-ming Mr LI Wing-sang Ms CHAU Chuen-heung Mr YUNG Chi-ming, Cheung Chau RC	In response to Mr Albert HO's enquiry, deputations/individuals explained their reasons for not supporting the suggestion of dividing Cheung Chau into a number of constituencies/electoral districts so that KFRs could be elected for the respective constituencies/districts.	
013732 - 014600	Break		
Session T	hree		
014601 - 014839	Chairman	The Chairman's introductory remarks	
014840 - 015129	Mr YIP Siu-hong	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(11))	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
015130 - 015308	Mr HO Chi-wai, 中國香港 致公協會	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(25))	.,
015309 - 015536	Mr LEUNG Hon-wai, 長洲居民事務委員會	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(25))	
015537 - 015601	Mr LAW Yun-wah, 離島旅遊協進會	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(25))	
015602 - 015833	Ms KWONG Wai-kuen, 中國香港珠三角漁農 畜牧聯合會	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(25))	
015834 - 020109	Mr KWONG Sai-loi,中國 香港高等教育中醫藥 協進會	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(25))	
020110 - 020318	Ms CHUNG Chui-ling	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(13))	
020319 - 020507	Mr HO Lai-on, Hong Kong Cheung Chau Bun Festival Committee	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(15))	
020508 - 020336	Mr LUK Sheung-lai	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)596/13-14(16))	
020637 - 020853	Mr CHAN Man-kwong, Cheung Chau Wai Chiu County Association Ltd.	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)575/13-14(26))	
020854 - 021111	Mr LAI Tze-man	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)608/13-14(02))	
021112 - 021216	Mr LEUNG Ko-kee	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)608/13-14(03))	
021217 - 021344	Mr LEE Man-on	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)608/13-14(04))	
021345 - 021410	Mr LEE Chi-ngan	Presentation of views (LC Paper No. CB(2)608/13-14(05))	
021411 - 022151	Chairman Mr Albert HO Admin	Follow-up discussion on some deputations' claim that they should be given the status of "Indigenous Inhabitants" of Cheung Chau.	
		The Administration's responses that -	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
		(a) to be included in the schedule of VREO, an "Indigenous Village" should satisfy two requirements, viz. the relevant village should have been in existence in 1898 and a village representation system should have been established in the relevant village in 1999;	
		(b) Cheung Chau was included in the List of Established Villages in the New Territories and was indicated as a market town therein;	
		(c) Cheung Chau was not included in the List of Recognized Villages under the New Territories Small House Policy compiled by the Lands Department;	
		(d) the Block Lease of Cheung Chau did not contain any village name therein; and	
		(e) Cheung Chau was not an indigenous village already in existence in 1898 and had never had any VR or VR system. Thus, Cheung Chau was not included in the list of indigenous villages under VREO;	
		(f) the Bills Committee on Village Representative Election Legislation (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill 2009 had detailed deliberations about the non-inclusion of Cheung Chau in the Schedules to VREO;	
		(g) regarding the claim that a Gazette Notice published in 1899 showed that Cheung Chau was a village and had VRs, the Administration explained that the said Gazette Notice was published pursuant to the then Local Communities Ordinance, which aimed to divide the New Territories into districts and sub-districts to facilitate administration. That Ordinance and Gazette Notice were not related to the VR system and that Ordinance was repealed in 1910;	
		(h) under the existing policy, villagers in the established villages in the List of Established Villages in the New Territories	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
		were eligible for rates exemption. However, the list clearly indicated that Cheung Chau was a market town; and  (i) all residents in Cheung Chau residing on the island for at least 10 consecutive years were eligible for burial on Cheung Chau. Applications for burial were processed by the Food and Environmental Hygiene Department ("FEHD") instead of District Offices. Burials were effected in cemeteries/crematoria under FEHD and there was no Permitted Burial Grounds as in the case for "Indigenous Inhabitants".	
022152 - 022428	Chairman Mr TAM Yiu-chung	Mr TAM Yiu-chung's expression of support for the Rural Representative Election Legislation (Amendment) Bill 2013 ("the Bill") and the early passage of the provisions in the Bill as drafted.	
022429 - 022904	Chairman Mr LEUNG Hon-wai, 長洲 居民事務委員會 Mr HO Chi-wai, 中國香港 致公協會	Deputations reiterating their views on the Bills as presented in their submissions.	
022905 - 023210	Chairman Miss Alice MAK Admin	The Administration's response to Miss Alice MAK's concerns about the public consultation on the legislative proposals in the Bill and the publicity made on the concept of "Indigenous Villages" under VREO.	
023211 - 023450	Chairman ALA3	The status of Cheung Chau as an "Indigenous Village" as claimed by some deputations/individuals; the dispute relating to Wong Wai Tsak Tong's land ownership in Cheung Chau and the settlement of Wong Wai Tsak Tong's claim for compensation under the Block Crown Lease (Cheung Chau) Ordinance (Cap. 488).	
023451 - 024416	Chairman Mr Albert HO Admin	Mr Albert HO's emphasis of the need to clarify whether indigenous residents in Cheung Chau should have the right to elect VRs in accordance with VREO. Enquiries on whether Cheung Chau and Peng Chau were the only two market towns in existence, and the rationale for extending the legislative framework concerning VR elections to KFR	

Time marker	Speaker	Subject(s)	Action Required
		elections for Cheung Chau and Peng Chau.	
		The Administration's advice that -	
		(a) the Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Cheung Chau RC and Peng Chau RC were ex-officio councillors of HYK;	
		(b) the Chairmen of RCs were also ex-officio members of the relevant District Councils;	
		(c) Cheung Chau and Peng Chau were the only Market Towns already in existence in 1898 with KFR election at present;	
		(d) the object of the Bill was to bring the long established KFR elections for Cheung Chau and Peng Chau which had been conducted administratively under statutory control; and	
		(e) the Court of Final Appeal's judgment that the legislative intent of VREO was to confine future VR elections to those villages already on the list where elections had been held in 1999, and that the Secretary had no power to add Tsing Yi Hui in the schedule of VREO as an "Indigenous Village".	
		The Chairman's request for the Administration's provision of a consolidated written response to the views expressed by deputations at the meeting and issues of concern raised by members, including the reasons why Cheung Chau and Peng Chau were "Market Towns" instead of "Indigenous Villages".	Admin to provide responses (para 4 to 6 of the minutes refer)
024417 - 024801	Chairman Mr Albert HO Dr Kenneth CHAN	Way forward and scheduling of the next three meetings.	

Council Business Division 2
<u>Legislative Council Secretariat</u>
29 January 2014